

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-12. (Cancelled)

13. (Previously Presented) A control method for regulating the flow of data between a first transmitting radio network node and a second transmitting radio network node in a radio transmission network, comprising the steps of:

said second transmitting radio network node receiving data from said first transmitting radio network node to be forwarded to plural user entities via an air interface; wherein:

the first transmitting radio network node sends a capacity request to the second transmitting radio network node requesting the second transmitting radio network node for permission to send an indicated number of data units that are pending in the first transmitting radio network node; and,

the second transmitting radio network node, in response to the capacity request, sends an allocation frame to the first transmitting radio network node, said allocation frame indicating the number of data units the first transmitting radio network node is given permission to transmit, this latter number being referred to as credits;

wherein the second transmitting radio network node, if buffer resources for storing of data units at the second transmitting radio network node are limited for each data flow between the first and second transmitting radio network nodes, performs the steps of:

counting the instantaneous number of requested data units in each data flow to obtain a total number of requested data units;

computing the total number of credits to be granted in each data flow by subtracting from a target buffer filling level for the total number of data flows the total

number of data units currently stored in each of the buffers and the total number of credits previously given but not yet received; and,

distributing the total number of credits proportionally to radio channel qualities indicated by said user entities.

14. (Previously Presented) The control method recited in claim 13, further comprising the step of limiting the total sum of user data in all data streams to a desired value less than or equal to the total requested number of data units.

15. (Previously Presented) A control method for regulating the flow of data between a first transmitting radio network node and a second transmitting radio network node in a radio transmission network, comprising the steps of:

said second transmitting radio network node receiving data from said first transmitting radio network node to be forwarded to plural user entities via an air interface, wherein:

the first transmitting radio network node sends a capacity request to the second transmitting radio network node requesting the second transmitting radio network node for permission to send an indicated number of data units that are pending in the first transmitting radio network node; and,

the second transmitting radio network node, in response to the capacity request, sends an allocation frame to the first transmitting radio network node, said allocation frame indicating the number of data units the first transmitting radio network node is given permission to transmit, this latter number being referred to as credits; and,

distributing the number of credits given by the second transmitting radio network node proportionally to radio channel qualities indicated by said user entities to which the second transmitting radio network node is scheduling radio transmission of data units.

16. (Previously Presented) A radio network node for regulating the flow of data from a transmitting node, comprising:

a buffering resource;
a capacity allocation device for allocating individual amounts of user data to individual user entities;
a flow control protocol and a scheduler;
wherein the capacity allocation device comprises a counter for keeping a running count of the instantaneous number of outstanding credits, outstanding credits being defined as the number of data units that the allocation device has permitted the transmitting node to send, although the corresponding number of data units has not yet arrived at the radio network node;
a distribution device adapted to distribute the total number of credits given by the radio network node proportionally to radio channel qualities indicated by said user entities to which the scheduler is scheduling radio transmission of data units.

17. (Previously Presented) The radio network node recited in claim 16, wherein the capacity allocation device comprises a counter for keeping a running count of user data pending in the transmitting node.

18. (Cancelled)

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